

Mr. Nixon Calls The Kettle Black

Editor of the Press Herald:

Vice President Richard M. Nixon, even as he may be still the "Tricky Dicky" of old with his money claim that Democratic presidential nominee John F. Kennedy has made three big mistakes of judgment on foreign policy in the campaign.

According to the "hollow man," the mistakes were in Kennedy's statements that the islands of Quemoy and Matsu should not be defended, that the President could have apologized to Khrushchev at the May summit meeting in Paris, and that there should be direct government aid to anti-Castro forces.

Although he has the faculty not to, Nixon would do well if he would check the Eisenhower administration's actions on similar matters before classifying Kennedy's distorted statements as such.

The Republican nominee is silent on the GOP administration's decision to evacuate the Nationalist held Tachen Islands in the Formosa Strait in 1955, although military experts agreed that they were far more defensible than either Quemoy or Matsu. And in truth, Kennedy has said that he stands with the administration's policy on the two islands; they should be defended if an attack on them is the forerunner of an assault on Formosa.

In the issue of expressing regrets, Nixon conveniently fails to mention that the U.S. under Eisenhower expressed regrets to the Soviet Union a number of times for accidental flights by our planes over Red territory, and also for a flight by a U.S. plane over Cuba. At the same time, it is interesting to note that the State Department has declined to release the text of Nixon's talk with Khrushchev in Moscow during which the vice president is said to have expressed this nation's regrets for the timing of the release of a Captive Nations proclamation.

Finally, on the issue of Kennedy's statement that there should be direct government aid to anti-Castro forces, Nixon curiously ignores the fact that the current Republican administration through the CIA, supplied anti-Communist forces with arms to overthrow the Communist regime in Guatemala in the mid '50's.

And this is the Nixon who is calling the kettle black.

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